

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please amend the abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT

A probe replacement method for a scanning probe microscope for measuring the surface of a sample, having a cantilever (21) having a probe (20), and a measurement unit for measuring a physical quantity between the probe and sample. The scanning probe microscope is provided with a cantilever mount (22), a cantilever cassette (30), an XY stage (14) and Z stage (15) for moving the cantilever cassette, and an optical microscope (18). ~~In The method has a first step, for performing alignment between the cantilever mount and the cantilever cassette, selecting a cantilever~~ is selected from the cantilever cassette, and is mounted ~~ing the cantilever thus selected~~ on the cantilever mount; ~~In and a second step, for moving an optical microscope~~ is moved and ~~setting the mounted cantilever~~ is set in a prescribed position in the field of view after the cantilever is mounted in the scanning probe microscope. In the second step, a step is provided for moving the optical microscope side or the cantilever side and performing positional adjustment.